PANIAR BALLAR

SINGE 1982

VOICE OF GAY AMERICA

JUNE 1990

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X

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PATLAR

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IN MY OPINION

by Mel Dahl

Does being gay mean more than having a sexual attraction to one's own sex? A few days ago, I read a column by Mike Royko in which he said that he did not believe there really was a gay community since what people like to do in bed is not really much from which to build a community.

(I used to think Mike Royko was a homophobe. I have now concluded that he is merely an embittered man who hates the world, and since the human race includes gay people, he naturally hates us too. But I

digress.)

Later that morning I got the opposite argument from a friend who is homophobic for religious reasons. (I am distinctly under the impression that he would not be anti-gay at all if he didn't believe he had a religious obligation to be anti-gay.) He talked my ear off for several minutes over breakfast about the "gay theologians," the "gay way of looking at things," and the "gay community" until I finally interrupted to tell him all three entities are fictional, and that the gay world is, in fact, really quite diverse in the ways in which it views things.

As a starting point, of course, being gay means being sexually attracted to the same gender. But does it mean more than that; does being gay go beyond sexuality and include a different world view, a dif-

ferent way of relating to other people? Yes, at least potentially.

At the outset, I need to apologize to my lesbian sisters for restricting this column to how gay males tend to view the world. I feel woefully inadequate to write about the female perspective on this issue since I have no first-hand experience from which to draw. Therefore, this column will be written from the male perspective. I would, however, be pleased to hear from any lesbians who wish to write me, in care of this paper, with your views on this subject, and will devote a future column to your responses.

To begin with, the society in which we live has rigid rules about how males are supposed to relate to each other. (Of course, many so-called straight males find ways around the rules and pretend they aren't doing what is obvious even to the casual observer. They remind me of the rabbi who asked the clerk at the deli for "half a pound that nice corn bif" and,

when told it was ham, responded, "Did I esk you?")

Gay males begin by breaking the all-powerful taboo against same-gender sexuality. There is therefore no reason why gay males should not violate the lesser taboos as well: the ban on being affectionate with one another, the ban on holding one another, the ban on opening up and sharing one's inner feelings, fears, insecurities and frustrations with one another, the ban on being nurturing and caring and supportive of each other. In sum, rather than spending our lives being aggressive and fighting with each other, we have the option of being nurturing and supportive of each other. By virtue of our sexuality being directed at other men, many of us choose to exercise that option.

Another difference between gay men and straight men is that gay males are more likely to be in touch with their feelings. If, living in the homophobic culture in which we do, we have the ability to get in touch with our feelings with regard to sexuality, then getting in touch with our

feelings on any other issue should be a piece of cake.

Of course, for many gay males in this homophobic culture, being in touch with one's feelings is just too painful, which is the reason for the high incidence of alcohol and drug dependency and short-lived relationships. But I think that with gay males, the ability to feel is there, and

Please See OPINION . . . Page 4

MADAM X

June is a mahvelous time for study, learning, and growing. Bookstores and libraries will be very popular places. You can never know too much, dahling, so read, read, read! (If you can. Just kidding!)

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This month is especially good for expanding your... guess what? No, dear, this isn't penis-expansion month. This is the time to expand your vocabulary and improve your communication skills! Calling someone an s.o.b. or telling him to go to hell is probably not the very best way to express yourself. One of the best TOOLS (I just love that word!) to use to improve communication and understanding is Transactional Analysis (TA).

Several years ago many of you may have read the popular book, I'm OK—You're OK. It is still a fine book particularly for new students of TA. A newer book on this subject is Staying OK. If you don't find these at your local bookstore, you can surely get them from your public library. They are both good books. (In addition to being a psychic astrologer, I have been a Transactional Analyst for years. TA has helped me immensely. It can help you too. Perhaps someday I shall write a book on my own and call it, I'm Not OK, Dahling, I'm Fabulous!)

There will be plenty of mental and other stimulation this month if you open yourself to it . . . so many books, so little time!

There will be a great deal of emphasis this month of telephone conversations. Be careful about those long phone sessions, dear. I wouldn't want you to have to sell all of that jewelry or the VCR to pay the phone bill! We can't let that happen. Life without jewelry or a VCR would be like a transvestite without make-up. Impossible! So do be cautious with the telephone.

Writing will be very important this month, especially letter writing. Don't neglect brothers, sisters, or friends. Communication by mail does have its advantages. You can take time to think before you relate. If you decide you don't like what you have written, you can change it. This month we should all be careful about what we say and how we say it. We should think about the effect our words will have before we use them. When we are cautious, a lot of misunderstandings can be prevented.

Many of you will be seeking new ways to alleviate boredom. You can study human behavior, study the mind, study yourself and others. You can go for walks, learn from radio shows, read or study educational video or audio tapes. It's better to increase knowledge instead of just sitting around feeling very bored and restless. You can be a good student this month and a fine teacher as well. Share knowledge generously. And remember that talking, listening, reading and writing are all extremely important in June.

The following list of key words will help you tune in and make good use of planetary patterns for each day this month:

1. analyze, evaluate; 2. diplomacy, tact; 3. kindness, courtesy;

4. assertiveness, potency; 5. charisma, passion; 6. discretion, elimination; 7. humor, enthusiasm; 8. wisdom, metaphysics; 9. discipline, restraint; 10. caution, parapsychology; 11. persistence, determination; 12. friendliness, compassion; 13. astrology, psychology; 14. tranquility, receptivity; 15. meditation, extrasensory perception; 16. ambition, leadership; 17. bravery, positivity; 18. productivity, prosperity; 19. love, sensuality; 20. dedication, communication; 21. education, versatility; 22. travel, change; 23. sensitivity, benevolence; 24. generosity, authority; 25. pride, confidence; 26. honesty, cheerfulness; 27. research, orderliness; 28. scrutiny, improvement; 29. consideration, thoughtfulness; and 30. balance, harmony.

Be good and be safe. And best wishes. Madam X

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MEN IN LOVE

This new film takes a look at love, life and death through a man who recently lost his partner to AIDS. This is a special engagement plays



much nearer the surface, than with straight males. Since admitting to being gay in the first place required that much of that El Toro Doo-Doo (ETDD) known as "macho" be tossed out, I think there is less ETDD to work through when one is trying to get a gay man in touch with his feelings than a straight man.

Speaking only for myself, unfortunately that tends to be replaced with a different variety of ETDD. As a gay male, I have always assumed that I could be honest about my feelings, so for me, being nurturing and supportive and admitting to insecurities does not pose a threat to my self-esteem. I wrestled in high school and college, and can bench press 200 pounds, and it is terribly disruptive to my self-esteem to admit to needing someone to spot for me in the weight room. The reason is that I spent many years trying to prove that I could be as butch as straight men, and so the slightest hint that I might not be able to lift those 200 big ones (or that I might need to have someone standing behind me in case I get into trouble) is a difficult admission to make. Thankfully, my gym buddies who know me know to do it for me anyway.

Finally, as a people who have known oppression, I think gay men tend, at least theoretically, to be more sensitive to other disfavored people. I know, there are a lot of gay men who are racists and sexists, and I find them appalling. One would think that people who have been at the receiving end of bigotry would be a little more careful about who they dish it out to. But, as a class, I think gay men tend to be more sensitive to people different from themselves.

For example, gay religious services are far more likely to be interpreted for the hearing impaired than mainline religious services. One is far more likely to find a racial mix in gay bars than in non-gay bars.

The problem is that gay people belong to a racist and sexist culture, and for many gay people, those issues have not yet been addressed. It is hard to divorce oneself from one's culture. My minority friends tell me horror stories about how they have been treated by other gay people, and I shake my head in amazement that such should happen in a community that has so often known prejudice and bigotry itself. Thus, on these questions, I fear that gay people are more reflective of an unhealthy society than we should be. However, given that gay people are also a minority, those who are trying to implement change have an appeal to make to gay people that won't work with non-gay people: How can you treat other people the way you don't want to be treated yourself?

Dooes being gay mean more than one's sex partner's anatomy? Yes. It means a great deal that is very positive and very healthy. It means a lot that society as a whole would do well to learn from. It means a new definition of masculinity that, unlike machoism, affirms life and health and true strength.

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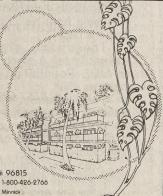
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LONGTIME COMPANION

A Film directed by Norman René Written by Craig Lucas Produced by Stan Wlodkowski

Starring: Stephen Caffrey, Patrick Cassidy,
Bruce Davison, John Dossett, Mark Lamos,
Dermot Mulroney, and Mary-Louise Parker
Please see the Tower Ad in this issue for dates and times.

Reviewed by Dean Stonehocker

Longtime Companion opens with a handsome, healthy hunk running along a Fire Island beach in the early 1980s. From that initial image of youth, health, and happiness, the film depicts the gradual decline of four friends into a hellish world of AIDS, pain and death. I'm sorry folks, but this is a difficult movie to watch.

On the other hand, there are many good this

to say about it.

It's unfortunate that the very people who SHOULD see this movie are the ones most likely to avoid it. If ever there was a film capable of arousing sympathy and compassion for those of us dealing with this catastrophe, *Longtime Companion* is it. But I doubt there will be any Falwells or Swaggarts in the theater to witness the helpless suffering of these very innocent people.

For the rest of us, however, I'm certain the film can be a cathartic experience—helping some to deal with their denial, others with their

resolve to act.

The story is told in sequences separated by periods of about a year. It was embarrassing to hear the characters in 1981 talking about AIDS, as I did, as though it was a problem for the sexually indiscriminate, drug abusing, fast lane bar types we all knew, but not for clean, sober, responsible types like ourselves. Then a year or two later, after a few of the characters have been diagnosed, to hear them reassuring one another, as people still do today, that "it's getting better, fewer people are coming down with it, a cure is just around the corner . . ."

There is a poignant scene where a friend visits a dying man with bottles of herbal remedies, prescribed by a herboligist who has held the concoctions to his stomach to test their efficacy for his friend's treatment. "It's very scientific," the friend assures the dying man, who looks on skeptically but glad for any hope.

In another scene of painful irony, a man lying in bed while listening to a "healing hypnosis" tape that assures him "universal love glows all around him" discourages the attempt of his lover to express physical affection. "I can't do both things at once," he snaps.

And in another jarring scene, a hospitalized man (probably demented by the virus) rips the IV needle from his arm in an attempt to escape

from his bed.

These and other scenes like them powerfully tell a story no government pamphlet or AIDS Foundation handout could possibly make as vivid.

The film ends with the survivors (to date) standing on the same Fire Island beach where the story began in much happier times. "Seems inconceivable," says one, "that there ever was a time before all this."

"Can you imagine," the other wonders, "what it will be like if they ever do find a cure?"

"Like the end of World War II," replies their woman friend.

FIRST LADY RESPONDS TO PARENTS OF GAYS

Barbara Bush has written the head of an organization of parents of gay children that "we cannot tolerate discrimination against any individuals or groups in our country."

The letter was addressed to Paulette Goodman, president of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, or Parents Flag. It came in response to Goodman's plea that the First Lady "speak kind words to some 24 million gay Americans and their families to help heal the wounds and to keep these families in loving relationships."

Mrs. Bush replied that "I appreciate . . . your encouraging me to help change attitudes." "Discrimination," she said, "always brings with it pain and per-

petuates hate and intolerance."

She said Goodman's "words speak eloquently of your love for your child and your compassion for all gay Americans and their families."

Mrs. Bush frequently has made clear her distaste for discrimination based on sexual orientation, according to an Associated Press report of her letter to Goodman.

Last month, President Bush aroused protests from some conservatives when he invited representatives of gay groups to attend the signing of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act, which targets bias-motivated violence.

Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a lobbying arm of the movement for gay and lesbian civil rights, said Mrs. Bush's letter "reinforces values that American mothers and American families are all about."

ORAL ALPHA-INTERFERON UPDATE

According to a recent article by Charles L. Ortleb which appeared in the May 14, 1990 edition of the New York Native, nearly two months after the New York Times reported that low-dose oral alpha-interferon has proved to be effective in treating AIDS patients in Kenya, trials of the treatment still have not begun in this country.

However, a study has been planned at Mt. Sinai Hospital, but there is no date set to begin the study because the go-ahead has not been received from either the FDA or the ethics committee of Mt. Sinai. A company in New Brunswick, New Jersey, known as Interferon Sciences, Inc. plans to conduct the controlled study using low doses of natural alpha interfer-on on patients suffering from AIDS-Related Complex; 35 patients will be involved.

One disturbing fact that has emerged about the trial is that it is not really a study to determine if the oral alpha-interferon that was used in Kenya is effective in treating AIDS. The oral alpha-interferon planned for use in the Mt. Sinai study is different from the oral alpha-interferon used in Kenya.

Another factor that may influence the outcome is that many of the patients who will take part in the Mt. Sinai study will also be taking AZT, which may affect the outcomes. In the Kenya study, 99 out of 101 AIDS patients treated dramatically improved (see last months Patlar).

In Kenya the oral alpha-interferon was given in the form of a wafer which the patients chewed for a few minutes. The oral alpha-interferon to be given at Mt. Sinai will be in liquid form; patients are supposed to let it sit in their mouths for thirty seconds and then swallow it.

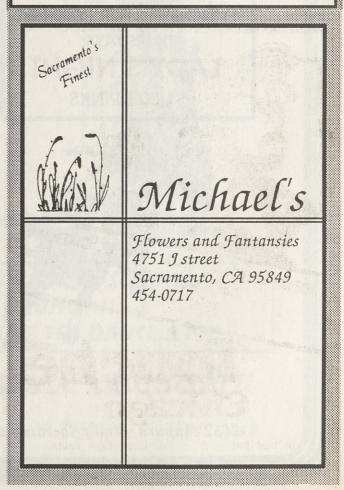




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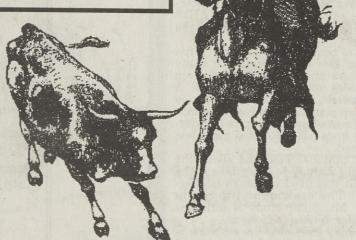
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HOROSCOPES

by Dr. Pat Larr

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GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): A set of twins really has you going in

two directions. This month three's a party. Enjoy.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Classic good looks have always turned you on. Mid-month an accidental meeting introduces you to the man of your dreams.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): Someone in high places longs to see your tan line. You'll have fun in the sun this month, but don't get burnt.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): That macho guy who's always after you is much more prissy than you know. Maybe it's time you cruised a gym for a change.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): Busy times ahead. You won't know

which end is up, but it'll probably be yours.

SCORPIO (Oct 22-Nov 22): Your new maturity brings you a whole new set of admirers. You're not getting older, you're getting humpier.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21): Someone who's not your usual type charms the pants off you. It'll be an eye-opening experience for

both of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Attend to domestic matters this month if you want to have a peaceful summer. You know how that special someone's temperature always goes up when it's hot outside.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): It's legs in the air time when an old flame returns to your arms. Maybe this time he's learned his lesson.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): A big man longs to spread your cheeks and put a smile on your face. And you say you're not a size queen!!

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): Things are looking up this month. The stars align. Your career forges ahead and so does that special someone.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): Yes, it's summer and time to call in the pool boy. Your deep end could use a few strokes with a stiff broom.

SAFER SEX

by Cat Comiskey

So often these days we hear about "safe sex." We're all aware of the importance of condoms and how they protect us from diseases and such. But what about other methods of safe sex? Surely our old friend the rubber doesn't stand alone in his crusade against bad body fluids. There are other protective means that are less popular but are, nonetheless, just as effective. Here is a partial list of these additional methods. Cut it out, laminate it, and keep it next to your sex drive.

Only sleep with people you know.

• Immediately after sex, change your bed sheets and wipe down all counter tops with a abrasive cleaner.

Only agree to sex with persons having a current driver's license,
 Visa, Mastercard, or American Express.

 Suggeset alternatives to sex such as: making macrame pot holders or watching Jeopardy.

• Only have sex with members of your own species.

Have sex only about as often as the Cowboys win a football game.

Never share drinks with the person you're sleeping with.

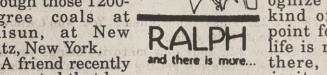
• Have condoms dispersed generously throughout your home in every available candy dish.

• Wear your hair like Peter Jennings and then no one will want to sleep with you anyway.

• Put condoms on before sexual relations.

can do anything."

the upper left corner of the mirror over my lav, so that I see it at least every morning on arising. For on Saturday, April 14, 1990, I walked through those 1200degree coals at Unisun, at New Paltz, New York.



commented that he was con- us—curiosity begins to tinually amazed at "whatever Ralph is into this time!" Perhaps you respond in a similar way, for, assuredly, how could any sane human being actually choose to

walk through fire? Well, of course, though we are not generally aware of the fact, people have walked through fire for centuries, many cultures-including American Indian cultures in our own country. But again, why? And, why did I choose this to get "into?" And, indeed, why am I always getting "into" things? Is it a foolish pursuit of the latest fad or transformational method?

could perhaps One indeed contend that Ralph Walker is some kind of "growth junkie," I suppose. But from inside of Ralph Walker what is so is that he knows that his purpose here, this time around on earth-plane, is discovering and releasing and ultimately "living from" his own God-ed-ness, or Buddha-nature, or "Christ within the soul" to use St. Augustine's name for it.

Good enough! But why? Well, "the only thing changeless is change itself," said Heraclitus, 2500 years ago. Life is short. However well any of us may take care of his or her body, it is good

be the end of it.

ognize that some reality. kind of terminal life is real—is out

grow and we truly wonder: "Is this all there is?" as the song says. Some of us,

"I walked through fire. I for approximately the Biblimyself included, begin to cal "four-score and ten" and grow increasingly clear that not much more for most of there is a "more" beyond the us. The physical time spent in physical body. body does die. And And, with that, there can that may, indeed, be- and there certainly is. for me —an eagerness to Yet again, it learn more about that and may not! And, for even, perhaps, to explore in many of us, as we some way those "other grow older and rec-dimensions" beyond physical

> To my mind there have point for physical long been at least two life is real—is out "explorations" that would awaiting provide me with direct, personal, experiential proof of that "more." The first would be to experience OBE—Out

> > Please see MORE ... Page 12



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of Body Experiences. I've been working on that in various ways for some time, and have yet to achieve that state . . . and, interesting enough, one woman did, last Saturday at the firewalk! "I found myself looking down at myself as my body was walking through the fire!" she said. I envied her that; instead, I was just there, every bit of me in body, walking through those coals.

It is a chance to discover new depths of your most spiritual self as well as a chance to learn that your mind can totally control your body.

A second exploration I knew could be instructive was to do the firewalk and thus truly learn that my "mind" could have complete and total control over my body and thus protect my body from burning in 1200-degree coals. That I do now know. AND, I commend the experience to anyone—but with the same word of caution which Tolly Burkan gave to everyone doing this firewalk seminar: "When you stand there at the start of the bed of coals, ask your inner guidance and if it says, 'Don't walk,' you do NOT walk. If it says, 'Go ahead, you will be safe,' THEN you can walk."

Ah! Perhaps there's a bit more to this firewalk thing than you'd first imagined! Perhaps it does have something to do with the spiritual path and the endless voyage of self-discovery! This guy talks about "inner guidance" and "higher power" and stuff like that!

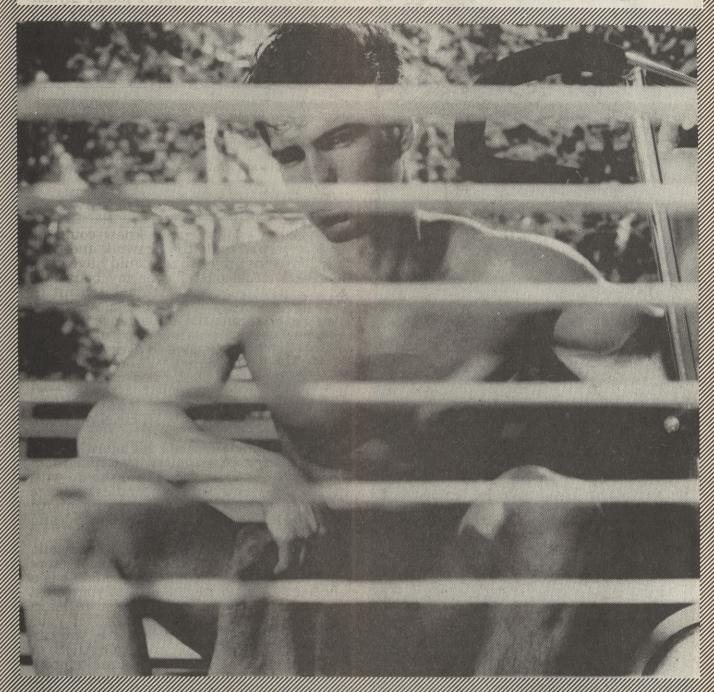
Yes, indeed he does! And, the firewalk, as Tolly Burkan delivers it, is a lot more than just walking through hot coals. It is a chance to discover new depths of your most spiritual self as well as a chance to learn that your mind can totally control your body. If you can walk through fire, you can do anything! Like heal cancer, or AIDS, or any other dis-ease of your body, and more.

There are, then, many reasons to consider firewalking, but all of them are, ultimately, ways of making richer discoveries of aspects of the profoundly wondrous and beautiful and powerfull being that you, sitting right there in your chair, now, ARE! Want to go for it? You have my blessings!

[Ralph H. Walker is creator of The Loving Brotherhood and The ALL NEW YOU Experience. He welcomes your comments

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THE NEXT WAVE by Douglas N. Lewis My Friend John

I have a friend, John, who's found himself in a strange predicament. It has to do with being diagnosed HIV+ three years ago, but I get ahead of myself. John is a great and generous man, a truly enlightened and responsive friend, who understands and has seen more in his life than most people even dream about.

John used to be a family man, a working man, a man who provided his wife and three grown sons with all the necessities of life, plus a few luxuries. But this made little difference; his family was not amused when he finally came out of his suffocating closet.

They berated him, assessed his worth at a little better than dog shit and spat on him. They force-fed him ignorance and hatred and bigotry and small-mindedness to the point where there was little room in his heart for happiness or love or even good health.

This bombardment was just a more concentrated version of what he had been getting from society all his life. He had tried to play society's rules, he'd gotten the job, made the family, paid for the house—but it left him cold, feeling worthless and emptier than before he made the attempt to fit in.

What exactly was John's crime? Why is he still, to this day, being punished? Most importantly, why is he punishing himself? After the divorce, John went for sex, for contact with the male hardness and passion of his inner desires. He went at it like a hungry man, a thirsty man, a man in need of comfort and solace. John is trying to make up in sex what he's lost in identity.

Then came the HIV+ diagnosis. John wasn't sick, but he knew he'd been exposed. Like many of us, he didn't need a lab result to know that he'd been touched by The Virus. All he needed was an adding machine and a head for his own sexual history. But the test results in the mail sent his life spinning into the horizon, and John hasn't been himself since. So, he has more sex. Random, risky, rapid sex. You see, it's not just the sex he's after, but the pain and humiliation of S&M.

John wants punishment. I wonder what for? He prefers titclamps and ball torture to sweet sighs and tender caresses. He likes it rough and gets it, frequently. There is no such thing as enough. Being HIV+ has given John a reason, a reason to justify his leaving his family. A reason to justify his self-loathing and self-destruction. It hasn't given him a reason to stop his exploits and I, for one, don't think he should, except for one thing—John is exquisitely unhappy

He is completely and utterly miserable, all the time. He'll tell you this. John is disgusted with himself, with his life and with his world. The only thing that makes him forget is his HIV+ diagnosis. AIDS has given him that last bit of belonging and identity that he needs to actually see his misery through to the end. And for someone who lacks the courage of cowardice, someone who cannot end his life with one final, bold stroke, AIDS appears to be a welcome respite from the ongoing agony of life. It is easier and much more comfortable than actually having to struggle everyday in a losing battle against the rest of the world and himself.

Finally, John belongs. He belongs to a subset of our culture whose very existence is dependent upon their own demise, and yet people seem to be queuing up to join their ranks. It's nice for John to have a common enemy, the world, and a common love, the myriad support systems of the AIDS community. John goes to his support group to talk about his emptiness and is met by the open arms of empathy. He shares his illness with these people, who share their illness with him. He goes to see the Names Project and weeps for fallen friends and for strangers while not shedding a tear for his own lost self. And he still has sex as often as he can create the opportunity.

The predicament that John has found himself in is that he

Please See WAVE . . . Page 18.



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WAVE . . . Continued From Page 14.

wants to self-destruct, but he's not sick. Oh, he's bought the tombstone, spent his money, watched his T-cells take a swan dive into double digits, arranged for his funeral and carries a near-pharmacy around everywhere he goes so that he can end it all himself, instantly, when things get bad medically. But there's nothing wrong with John. He's not even ARC, though he's convinced a doctor to say he is due to what they call neuro-degeneration. Neuro-degeneration? Isn't that something that takes place in only the most advanced cases of AIDS? Of course it is, but John is so desperate to have AIDS, so full of his own emptiness, that he tells everyone that he has AIDS and that he is a very, very sick man.

I wonder if this *neuro-degeneration* exists at all. And if it does, I wonder if it might not be caused by all the drugs he has been using for so many years and continues to use (legal and otherwise) along with the gallons of amyl nitrite he inhales in a year. The only problem is, John's latest T-cells have take a huge jump, up to 550 from a low of 86. Not only is he not sick, but his only indicator of degeneration has betrayed him. What does he do now? He talks of the disappointment of having his T-cells go back to semi-normal levels. Suddenly John's got a future, and he's not the least bit happy about that.

The reason I bring you John's story is twofold. One, it's hard having seen several friends try desperately, courageously, to hold onto their lives while John does so much to end his and, two, to say that John's story is not unusual in a society where you can be berated, beaten and even killed because you are somehow different. John has been a victim, but it's hard to tell who has victimized him more severely, our culture or himself. I understand the need to belong, to relate and share camaraderie, who doesn't? But it's amazing to me the extent to which some people will go to fit in somewhere, anywhere. Especially a people who have been taught that they are less than worthless and should die of some horrible, disfiguring disease for their transgression of living. How many Johns do you know?

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ties. This year's theme is: Looking To The Future. Satur-

day, June 9 starts the whole thing off. PAARC presents their third annual benefit performance: This year's theme: "Times," a musical variety at the 24th St. Theater, showtime 7 PM. Tickets \$15. Then on June 14 Romanovsky & Phillips will be appearing at the United Methodist Church, 21st & J Sts., 8:00 PM, \$10 adv. tickets, \$13 at the door. Then the Big Day,

June 16, Lambda Freedom Fair at McKinley Park, 10 AM til 7 PM. A fun-filled day, live entertainment, food & beverage, art show. etc. It's going to be a good day, so make sure you are a part of it . . . On June 24 I am sponsoring my 16th annual trip to San Fran for their Gay Day Parade. Bus leaves the Mercantile Saloon at 9 AM; we will return 9 PM. The Merc will open at 8 AM. Fare: \$21 which includes ice, cups and mixes. For more info, check with me, Ernie Brown, at the Merc ... Congrats to the Town House on your first anniversary . . . Don't forget to check out Joseph's Town & Country. They now have poolside service and a lanai tropical dining. A nice touch, Joseph . . . The Buffalo Club, by the way, has a definite new look these days . . . The Attic Food & Fuel is beginning to spread its wings, good sandwiches . . . The Wreck Room has something big coming up in June I hear. Keep in touch with them . . . Gay Games 90 are

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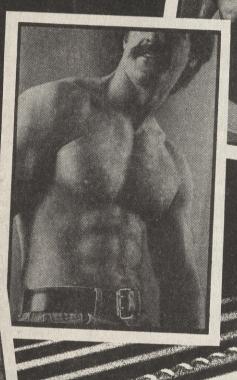
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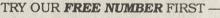
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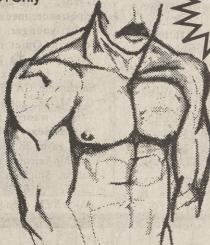
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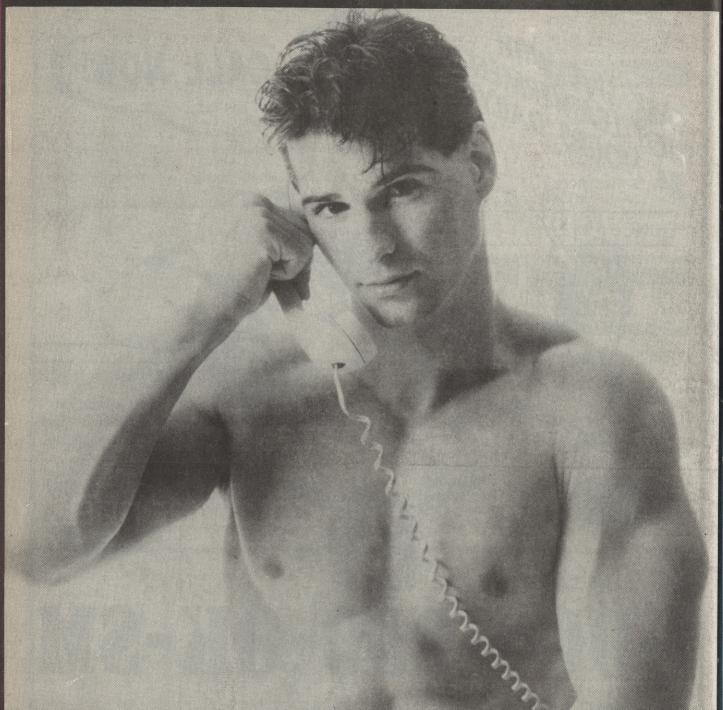
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